

Great Books for Fifth Grade Readers at the Pleasanton Public Library

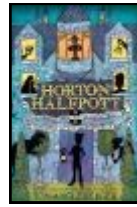
Compiled by the Pleasanton Library
Children's Staff



Books are shelved in
Children's Fiction
by author's last name
and/or
Children's Paperbacks
by first letter of author's last name
(unless otherwise noted).

Please ask at the Children's Desk
if you need help.

**Horton Halfpott, or, The Fiendish Mystery of
Smugwick Manor, or, The Loosening of
M'lady Luggertuck's Corset** by Tom Angleberger



(206 p) *Audiobook available*
Horton, an upstanding kitchen boy in a castle in nineteenth-century England, becomes embroiled in a mystery surrounding a series of thefts, which is also connected to the pursuit of a very eligible and wealthy young lady's affections.

The Case of the Case of the Mistaken Identity

by Mac Barnett
(179 p) *Audiobook available*
Brixton Brothers series

When twelve-year-old Steve Brixton, a fan of Bailey Brothers detective novels, is mistaken for a real detective, he must elude librarians, police, and the mysterious Mr. E as he seeks a missing quilt containing coded information.

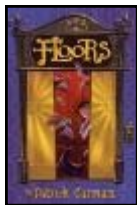


Masterpiece by Elise Broach



(292 p) *Audiobook available*
After Marvin, a beetle, makes a miniature drawing as an eleventh birthday gift for James, a human with whom he shares a house, the two new friends work together to help recover an Albrecht Durer drawing stolen from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Floors by Patrick Carman



(261 p) *Audiobook available*
Whippet Hotel series
The Whippet Hotel is an amazing place and each floor is full of strange people, secrets, and mysteries. Leo, the maintenance man's son, gets thrown into the mysteries when a series of cryptic boxes are left for him.

Troublemaker by Andrew Clements



(140 p)
When his older brother gets in serious trouble, sixth-grader Clay decides to change his own mischief-making ways, but he cannot seem to shake his reputation as a troublemaker.

Crunch by Leslie Connor
(330 p) *Audiobook available*
The oldest Mariss brother, fourteen-year-old Dewey, attempts to be the "embodiment of responsibility" as he juggles the management of the family's bicycle repair business while sharing the household and farm duties with his siblings after a sudden energy crisis strands their parents far from home.



Free Baseball by Sue Corbett
(152 p)

Angry with his mother for having too little time for him, eleven-year-old Felix takes advantage of an opportunity to become bat boy for a minor league baseball team, hoping to someday be like his father, a famous Cuban outfielder.



The Mighty Miss Malone



by Christopher Paul Curtis
(307 p) With love and determination befitting the "world's greatest family," twelve-year-old Deza Malone, her older brother Jimmie, and their parents endure tough times in Gary, Indiana, and later Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression.

The Familiars by Adam Jay Epstein
(360 p) *Familiars series*



When a scrappy alley cat named Aldwyn passes himself off as a magical animal companion to Jack, a young wizard in training, Aldwyn and his fellow "familiars," a know-it-all blue jay and bumbling tree frog, must save the kingdom after the evil queen of Vastia kidnaps Jack and two other wizards.

Horton's Miraculous Mechanisms: Magic, Mystery, & a Very Strange Adventure

by Lissa Evans
(270 p)

As if being small and having S. Horton as his name isn't bad enough, now 10-year-old Stuart is forced to move far away from all his friends. But on his very first day in his new home, Stuart's swept up in an extraordinary adventure: the quest to find his great-uncle Tony — who literally



disappeared off the face of the earth — and Tony's marvelous, long-lost workshop.

Operation Redwood



by S. Terrell French
(353 p)
In northern California, Julian Carter-Li and his friends old and new fight to save a grove of redwoods from an investment company that plans to cut them down.

Charlie Joe Jackson's Guide to Not Reading

by Tom Greenwald
(220 p)

Charlie Joe Jackson's Guide to series
Middle schooler Charlie Joe is proud of his success at avoiding reading, but eventually his schemes go too far.



**This list represents a small selection of
fiction that appeals to fifth graders.
This list is not intended to limit a
child's reading, for there is no
"perfect" fifth grade book.**

Pleasanton Public Library
Children's Services
400 Old Bernal Ave.
Pleasanton, California 94566

(925) 931-3400

Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 10 a.m.- 9 p.m.

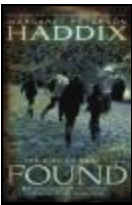
Friday-Saturday: 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Sunday: 1 p.m.- 5 p.m.

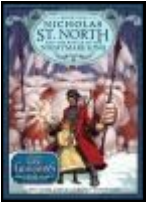


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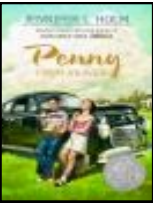
Found by Margaret Peterson Haddix (314 p) *Audiobook available* — *Missing series*
Thirteen-year-old Jonah has always known that he was adopted, and he’s never thought it was any big deal. Then he and a new friend, Chip, who’s also adopted, begin receiving mysterious letters. The first one says, “You are one of the missing.” The second says, “Beware! They’re coming back to get you.” Soon the boys realize they are part of a much bigger mystery.



Nicholas St. North and the Battle of the Nightmare King by William Joyce (228 p) *Audiobook available* — *Guardians of Childhood series*
Nicholas St. North, a daredevil swordsman seeking treasure in the fiercely guarded village of Santoff Claussen finds, instead, the great wizard Ombric Shalazar and a battle against the Nightmare King and his evil Fearlings — a battle Nicholas can win only if he finds five other Guardians in time.



Penny from Heaven by Jennifer L. Holm (274 p) *Audiobook available*
As she turns twelve during the summer of 1953, Penny gains new insights into herself and her family while also learning a secret about her father's death.



The Girl Behind the Glass by Jane Kelley (183 p)
Moving from Brooklyn to a rental house in the country strains the relationship between eleven-year-old identical twins Hannah and Anna Zimmer. The situation is made even worse by the ghost of a girl who has been trapped in the house for over 80 years.



Swindle by Gordon Korman (252 p) *Audiobook available* — *Swindle series*
After unscrupulous collector S. Wendell Palamino cons him out of a valuable baseball card, sixth-grader Griffin Bing puts together a band of misfits to break into Palomino’s heavily guarded store and steal the card back.



The Giant-Slayer by Iain Lawrence (292 p) *Audiobook available*
When her eight-year-old neighbor is stricken with polio in 1955, eleven-year-old Laurie discovers that there is power in her imagination as she weaves a story during her hospital visits with him and other hospital patients.



Where the Mountain Meets the Moon by Grace Lin (278 p) *Audiobook available*
Minli, an adventurous girl from a poor village, buys a magical goldfish, and then joins a dragon who cannot fly on a quest to find the Old Man of the Moon in hopes of bringing life to Fruitless Mountain and Jade River.



Highway Cats by Janet Taylor Lisle (118 p) *Audiobook available*
A hard-bitten group of mangy highway cats is changed forever after the mysterious arrival of three kittens.



The Leanin’ Dog by K.A. Nazum (250 p) *Audiobook available*
In wintry Colorado during the 1930s, eleven-year-old Dessa Dean mourns the death of her beloved mother, but the arrival of an injured dog and the friendship they form is just what they need to change their lives.



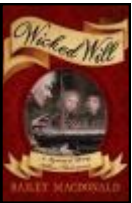
The Aviary by Kathleen O’Dell (339 p)
In late nineteenth-century Maine, isolated, eleven-year-old Clara Dooley lives in Glenoveer mansion. She gains a friend and uncovers a magical secret that changes her life when she learns to care for the once-feared birds in the aviary attached to the mansion.



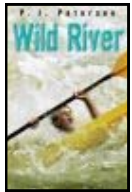
A Field Guide to Monsters: Googly-Eyed Wart Floppers, Shadow-Casters, Tox-Eaters, and Other Crzatures by Johan Olander
Reports the habitat, diet, lifecycle, and other characteristics of a variety of unusual monsters, as observed and recorded by a monstrologist.



Wicked Will by Geraldine McCaughrean (201 p)
Performing in the English town of Stratford-on-Avon in 1576, a young actress (disguised as a boy) and a local lad named Will Shakespeare uncover a murder mystery.



Wild River by P. J. Petersen (120 p)
Considered lazy and unathletic, twelve-year-old Ryan discovers a heroic side of himself when a kayak trip with his older brother goes horribly awry.



The Magic Thief by Sarah Prineas (419 p) *Audiobook available* — *Magic Thief series*
A young thief is drawn into a life of magic and adventure after picking the pocket of the powerful wizard Nevery Flinglas, who has returned from exile to attempt to reverse the troubling decline of magic in Wellmet City.



Magyk by Angie Sage (564 p) *Audiobook available* — *Septimus Heap series*
After she learns that she is the Princess, Jenna is whisked from her home and carried toward safety by the Extraordinary Wizard, those she always believed were her father and brother, and a young guard known only as Boy 412 -- pursued by agents of those who killed her mother ten years earlier.



Smells Like Dog by Suzanne Selfors (360 p) *Smells Like Dog series*
When farm boy Homer Pudding’s explorer-uncle dies and leaves him a droopy dog with a mysterious coin hidden on its collar, it leads him to The City, where they meet Madame La Directeur. She is the conniving head of the Natural History Museum, who is trying to steal the coin and take Homer’s place in a secret society of adventurers.



Wonderstruck: A Novel in Words and Pictures by Brian Selznick (637 p)
Having lost his mother and his hearing in a short time, twelve-year-old Ben leaves his Minnesota home in 1977 to seek the father he never knew in New York City. There he



meets Rose who is also longing for something missing from her life. Ben’s story is told in words; Rose’s in pictures.

Walls Within Walls by Maureen Sherry (349 p)
When the Smithfork family moves into a lavish Manhattan apartment building, they discover clues to a decades-old mystery hidden behind the walls of their new home.



The White Giraffe by Lauren St. John (180 p) *Audiobook available* — *Legend of the Animal Healer series*
After a fire kills her parents, eleven-year-old Martine must leave England to live with her grandmother on a wildlife game reserve in South Africa, where she befriends a mythical white giraffe.



Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart (485 p) *Audiobook available* — *Mysterious Benedict Society series*
After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.



Paperback Series
shelved in J Paperbacks by first letter of series title
Candy Apple by various authors
Comeback Kids by Mike Lupica
Fred Bowen Sports Stories by Fred Bowen
Freddy the Pig by Walter R. Brooks
Guardians of Gahoolz by Kathryn Lasky (shelved under “L”)

Goddess Girls by Joan Holub
Hank Zipzer by Henry Winkler
National Parks Mysteries by Gloria Skurzynski
Orca Sports by various authors
Poison Apple by various authors
Sammy Keyes by Wendelin Van Draanen
S.T.A.T. by Amar’e Stoudemire
Warriors by Erin Hunter
Winning Season by Rich Wallace